

JUN 22 2007

**Certificate of Facsimile**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile-transmitted to the Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks at 571-273-8300 on the below date:

Date: June 22, 2007 Name: Carolyn Beacon-Wright

Signature: *Carolyn Beacon-Wright*
**BRINKS**  
**HOFER**  
**GILSON**  
**& LIONE**
**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Appn. of: Darin G. Schaeffer, et al.

Appn. No.: 10/769,962

Filed: February 2, 2004

For: TRACHEOSTOMY TUBE AND LOADING  
DILATOR

Attorney Docket No: 10703/042 (PA-5375-RFB)

Examiner: Ali, Shumaya B.

Art Unit: 3743

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**TRANSMITTAL**

Sir:

Attached is/are:

Response to Office Action of March 22, 2007; (13 pages including Transmittal)  
 Return Receipt Postcard

## Fee calculation:

No additional fee is required.  
 Small Entity.  
 An extension fee in an amount of \$\_\_\_\_ for a \_\_\_\_-month extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a).  
 A petition or surcharge in an amount of \$\_\_\_\_ under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16(e).  
 An additional filing fee has been calculated as shown below:

	Claims Remaining After Amendment		Highest No. Previously Paid For	Present Extra	Small Entity		Not a Small Entity	
					Rate	Add'l Fee	or	Rate
Total	31	Minus	31	0	x \$25=			x \$50=
Indep.	4	Minus	4	0	x 100=			x \$200=
First Presentation of Multiple Dep. Claim					+\$180=			+\$360=
					Total	\$	Total	\$

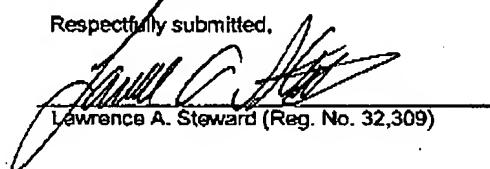
## Fee payment:

A check in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_ to cover the above-identified fee(s) is enclosed.  
 Please charge Deposit Account No. 23-1925 in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_. A copy of this Transmittal is enclosed for this purpose.  
 Payment by credit card in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_ (Form PTO-2038 is attached).  
 The Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional filing fees required under 37 CFR § 1.16 and any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR § 1.17 associated with this paper (including any extension fee required to ensure that this paper is timely filed), or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 23-1925.

Respectfully submitted,

*June 22, 2007*

Date

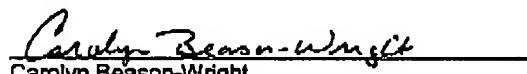
*Lawrence A. Steward* (Reg. No. 32,309)


RECEIVED  
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

JUN 22 2007

Certificate of Facsimile

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile-transmitted to the Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks at 571-273-8300 on June 22, 2007.

  
Carolyn Beason-Wright

Our Case No.: 10703/042 (PA-5375-RFB)

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

## In re Application of:

Darin G. Schaeffer, et al.

Examiner: Ali, Shumaya B.

Serial No.: 10/769,962

Group Art Unit No.: 3743

Filing Date: February 2, 2004

For: TRACHEOSTOMY TUBE AND  
LOADING DILATOR

## RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION OF MARCH 22, 2007

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This paper is responsive to the Office Action mailed March 22, 2007.

**Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.**

**Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.**